

Your details

Name / Organisation name:

Stephen Barrett

Reducing Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions

1. What do you think are the key opportunities to reduce Tasmania's emissions? Please choose your top three.:

Transport policy change. Land use Housing design

2. What do you think are the key gaps in Tasmania's current efforts to reduce emissions?:

No incentives for the uptake of energy efficient transport; limited incentives for people to use public transport. Poor protection of old growth forests. Lack of incentives/regulation for energy efficient building practices.

3. What do you think are the main opportunities for Tasmania to transition to a low carbon economy?:

Financial support for the uptake of evs would encourage lower transport emissions. If there are poor regulations of ice vehicle emissions, and no road tax reductions or loan support for evs, then the upfront cost is discouraging for many potential buyers. More, low cost, or free charging stations would also encourage wouldbe buyers. (Supporting the purchase of solar panels in the early 2000s enabled their price to be reduced to its current levels, where they need little subsidising). Protect our old growth forests to encourage new technologies for engineered wood products from plantations and recycled plastics/wood products. R and D in sustainable building practices/ look to Europe .

Helping Tasmania adapt to a changing climate

1. What aspects of Tasmania's projected future climate most concern you and why?:

Bush fire- we live in a high risk area in a high risk state. Marine changes- our coastal marine ecology is unique. It can't simply move further south to find new 'ground'.

2. Which parts of Tasmania (for example locations, industries, communities) do you think are most vulnerable to a changing climate?:

Our old growth forests, which are already under threat from logging. East coast marine environment,

3. What do you think are the key opportunities to help Tasmania adapt to a changing climate? Please choose your top three.:

Protect old growth forest- they are our carbon sinks, stabilise our soils, keep our water table stable. They are home to so many unique plants, animals and fungi, some undiscovered, with significant scientific breakthrough potential. They are one of our key tourist attractions. Protect our coastline with marine reserves that large enough to be relevant, are in appropriate regions, and are policed.

General

Is there anything else you'd like to add?:

In the Covid emergency you listened to the experts. We now need to listen to the climate scientists. They say its almost too late to act, but significant steps will produce significant improvements. Lets not comfort ourselves with the LULUCF figures when our forests are under such threats.

Publication

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